

FIG. I.



Represents the manner of Yoking the Slaves by the Mundingoes, or African Slave Merchants, who usually march annually in eight or ten parties, from the River Gambia to Bambarra; each party having from one hundred to one hundred and fifty Slaves.

FIG. III.



Where the roads lay through woods, the captive inhabitants are made to travel several hundred miles with a log hung as here described.

FIG. V.



The Husband and Wife, after being sold to different purchasers, violently separated—probably never to see each other more!

FIG. VII.



A front and profile view of an African's head with the mouth piece and necklace, the hooks round which, are placed as a preventative to an escape when pursued in the woods, or, to procuring of rest by laying the head down.

N.B. At A is a piece of flat iron which goes into the mouth—and so effectually keeps down the tongue, that nothing can be swallowed, not even the saliva, a passage for which is made through holes in the mouth plate.

FIG. IX.

R E M A R K S

ON THE

METHODS OF PROCURING SLAVES

WITH A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THEIR

TREATMENT IN THE WEST-INDIES, &c.

THE respectable and increasing numbers of those, who, from motives of Humanity, have concurred in rejecting the produce of West-Indian Slavery, cannot but afford a subject of the sincerest joy to every friend of mankind. Even those who from motives of Interest still favor or engage in the Trade, have been obliged to be silent upon the injustice of first procuring the Negroes, and have not had the hardiness to excuse or palliate the horrors of the MIDDLE PASSAGE: but still they assert that the treatment the Slaves meet with in the West-Indies amply counterbalances their previous sufferings; they have not scrupled to extol a state of servitude as a happy Asylum from African Despotism, and calmly maintain that the condition of the labouring poor in England, is much harder than that of the Negroes in the West-India Islands. Upon this ground the opposers of slavery are willing to meet its advocates, and the design of the following Extracts is to enable the public to form an impartial and decisive judgement upon the subject.

When a Ship arrives at the port in the West-Indies the Slaves are exposed to sale, (except those who are very ill, they being left in the yard to perish by disease or hunger) The healthy are disposed of by public auction, the sickly by scramble. The sale by scramble is thus described; the ship being darkened by sails, the purchasers are admitted, who, rushing forward with the ferocity of brutes, seize as many Slaves as they have occasion for. In none of the sales is any care taken to prevent the separation of relatives or friends, but Husbands and Wives, Parents and Children, fig. 5, are parted with as much unconcern as Sheep and Lambs by the Butcher. Abstract of the Evidence page 46 and 47.

With respect to the GENERAL treatment of the Slaves, Mr. Woolrich says, that he never knew the BEST master in the West-Indies use his Slaves so well as the WORST master his servants in England. Abstract of the Evidence see page 53.

To come to a more PARTICULAR description of their treatment it will be proper to divide them into different classes: the first consisting of those bought for the use of the PLANTATION: the second of the IN and OUT-DOOR Slaves.

The Field Slaves are called out by day light to their work: if they are not there in time they are flogged. When put to their work they perform it in rows, and without exception under the whip of Drivers; a certain number of whom are allotted to each gang. Such is the MODE of their labour: as to the TIME of it they begin at Day-light, and continue with two intermissions (one for half an hour in the morning, the other for two hours at noon) till sun set. Besides this they are expected to range about and pick grafs for the cattle, either during their two hours REST at noon, or after the fatigues of the day.

SIR G. YONGE adds, that women were in general considered to miscarry from the cruel treatment they met with; and Captain Hall says that he has seen a woman feated to give suck to her Child, roused from that situation by a severe blow from the cart-whip. Abstract of the Evidence see page 53, 54, 55.

THE above account of their labour is confined to that season of the year which is termed OUT OF CROP. In the crop season the labour is of much longer duration. Mr. Dalrymple says, they are obliged to work as long as they can, that is as long as they can keep awake or stand. Sometimes through excess of fatigue they fall asleep, when it has happened to those who feed the Mills, that their arms have

HAVING now described the state of the plantation, it will be proper to say a few words on that of the IN and OUT-DOOR Slaves.

THE IN-DOOR Slaves are allowed to be better clothed, and fed, and less worked, than the plantation; on account however of being constantly exposed to the cruelty and caprice of their Masters and Mistresses, their lives are rendered so wretched, that they not unfrequently wish to be sent to the field: the OUT-DOOR Slaves are porters, coopers, &c. who are obliged to bring to their Masters a certain sum every day.

THE ordinary punishments of the Slaves are inflicted by the Whip and Cow-skin. This, says Mr. Woolrich, is generally made of plaited Cow-skin, with a thick strong lash, it is so formidable an instrument that some of the overseers can by means of it take the skin off a horse's back, he has seen them lay the marks of it into a deal board: the incisions (according to Dr. Harrison and the Dean of Middleham) are sometimes so deep, that you may lay your finger into the wounds, and are such as no time can erase. As a farther proof of the SEVERITY of the punishments, the following facts are adduced. Mr. Fitzmaurice has known pregnant women so severely whipped as to have miscarried in consequence of it. Davidson knew a Negro Girl die of a mortification of her wounds two days after whipping. Dr. Jackson recollects a Negro dying under the lash or soon after. Abstract of the Evidence see page 66 and 67.

WE now proceed to the EXTRAORDINARY punishments, in the infliction of which, malice, fury, and all the worst passions of the human mind, rage with unbridled licence, Benevolence recoils at the dreadful perspective, and can scarce collect composure to disclose the Bloody Catalogue.

CAPTAIN RAP has known Slaves severely punished, then put into the Stocks, a cattle chain of sixty or seventy pounds weight put on them, and a large collar round their necks, and a weight of fifty-six pounds fastened to the chain, when they were driven afield: the collars are formed with two, three, or four projections, which hinder them from lying down to sleep. See fig. 7 and 8.

A NEGRO man in Jamaica (says Dr. Harrison) was put on the picket so long, as to cause a mortification of his foot and hand, on suspicion of robbing his master, a public officer, of a sum of money, which it afterwards appeared THE MASTER HAD TAKEN HIMSELF. Yet the Master was privy to the punishment, and the Slave had no compensation. Abstract of the Evidence page 69.

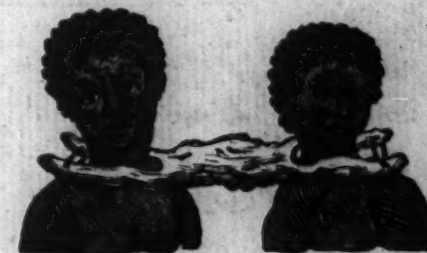
MR. FITZMAURICE mentions the practice of dropping hot lead upon the Slaves, which he saw performed by a Planter of the name of Rulhie in Jamaica, this same man in three years destroyed by severity FORTY NEGROES OUT OF SIXTY. The rest of the conduct of this planter was suppressed by the House of Commons, as containing circumstances TOO HORRIBLE TO BE GIVEN TO THE WORLD.

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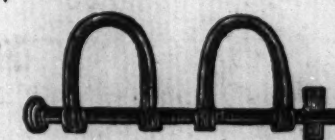
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FIG. II.



These Log-Yokes are made of the roots of trees—and so heavy as to make it extremely difficult for the person who wears it to walk, much more to escape or run away.

FIG. IV.



A view of the leg bolts or shackles, as put upon the legs of the Slaves on ship board, in the middle passage.

FIG. VI.



When Slaves are purchased by the dealers they are generally marked on the breast with a red hot iron.

FIG. VIII.



A representation of a Slave at work as cruelly accoutered—with a head frame and mouth piece to prevent his eating—with boots and spurs (as they are called) round his legs, and an half hundred weight chained to his body to prevent his absconding.



The Husband and Wife, after being sold to different purchasers, violently separated—probably never to see each other more!

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A front and profile view of an African's head with the mouth piece and necklace, the hooks round which, are placed as a preventative to an escape when pursued in the woods, or, to procuring of rest by laying the head down.

N.B. At A is a piece of flat iron which goes into the mouth—and so effectually keeps down the tongue, that nothing can be swallowed, not even the saliva, a passage for which is made through holes in the mouth plate.

FIG. IX.



An enlarged view of the mouth piece—which when long worn—becomes so heated as frequently to bring off the skin along with it.

N.B. A late respectable tradesman in London, had an order for a great number of these and other such like instruments—but after they were made, finding the uses they were intended for, he declined sending them.

FIG. XI.



The manner in which some Slaves are placed to be flogged.

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To this account of their labour, it should be added, that it appears that on some estates the Slaves have Sunday and Saturday afternoon to themselves, on others Sunday only, and on others only Sunday in part. It appears again that IN CROP on no estates have they more than Sunday for the cultivation of their own lands. Abstract of the Evidence page 56.

THE point next to be considered is the FOOD of the Slaves, which appears to be subject to no rule: on some estates they are allowed land, on others provisions, and others are allowed provisions and land jointly. The best allowance is at Barbadoes, of which the following is the account. The Slaves in general, says Gen. Tottenham, appeared to be ill fed: each Slave had one pint of grain for twenty-four hours and sometimes half a rotten Herring. When the Herrings were UNFIT FOR THE WHITES, they were bought up FOR THE SLAVES. Nine pints of corn, and one pound of salt-fish a week, is in general the utmost allowance. As a proof that some have not food enough, Mr. Cook says that he has known both Africans and Creoles eat the putrid carcases of animals THROUGH WANT. Abstract of the Evidence page 57 and 58.

As to the accusation of their being THIEVES, all the Evidences maintain that it was on account of their being HALF STARVED. Abst. of the Evidence page 58.

CONCERNING the PROPERTY of the field-slaves, all the Evidences agree in asserting that they never heard of a field-slave amassing such a sum as enabled him to purchase his freedom. Abstract of the Evidence page 60.

the following facts are adduced. Mr. Fitzmaurice has known pregnant women so severely whipped as to have miscarried in consequence of it. Davidson knew a Negro Girl die of a mortification of her wounds two days after whipping. Dr. Jackson recollects a Negro dying under the lash or soon after. Abstract of the Evidence see page 66 and 67.

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LIEUTENANT DAVISON relates, that the wife of the Clergyman at Port Royal, used to drop hot sealing wax on her Negroes after flogging—he was sent for as Surgeon to one of them whose breast was terribly burnt.

IF it should be asked for what offences the punishments cited have taken place, the following answer may be given.

UNDER the head of ORDINARY punishments, the Slaves appear to have suffered for not coming to the field in time, not picking a sufficient quantity of grafs, for staying too long of an errand, and Theft, to which they were often driven by Hunger.

UNDER the Head of EXTRAORDINARY punishments the following have been alledged as reasons; for running away, for breaking a plate, or to extort confession, in the moments of passion, and one on a diabolical pretence which the master held out to the world to conceal HIS OWN VILLAINY, AND WHICH HE KNEW TO BE FALSE. WOMEN punish their Slaves, for being found pregnant, for not bringing home the FULL WAGES OF PROSTITUTION, and others, without EVEN THE ALLEGATION OF A FAULT.

ALL the facts that have been now adduced are of unquestionable authority, having been extracted from the Evidence laid before the House of Commons by eye-witnesses of the facts. Let now every honest man lay his hand on his breast, and seriously reflect whether he is justifiable in countenancing such barbarities; or whether he ought not to reject with horror, the smallest participation in such infernal transactions. To the weaker sex, whose amicable characteristic it is, to be "tremblingly alive" to every tale of woe, the friends of the Abolition return their warmest acknowledgements, for the zeal with which many of them have espoused the cause of humanity, and for the noble example they have shewn, in rejecting the produce of Slavery and Misery.



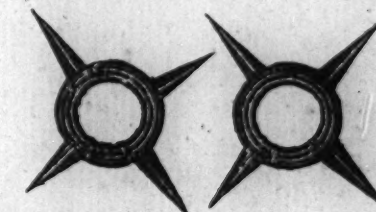
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FIG. VIII.



A representation of a Slave at work as cruelly accoutered—with a head frame and mouth piece to prevent his eating—with boots and spurs (as they are called) round his legs, and an half hundred weight chained to his body to prevent his absconding.

FIG. X.



An enlarged view of the Boots and Spurs, as seen used on some plantations in Antigua.

FIG. XII.



Another method of fixing the poor victims on a ladder to be flogged, which is also occasionally laid flat on the ground for severer punishments.